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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

ORGANIZATION OF WORK: RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS AND DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Note by the Secretary-General

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INTRODUCTION

1. The attention of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples is drawn to the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, listed in sections I to III below, which are relevant to the work of the Special Committee in 1990.

I. GENERAL RESOLUTIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

2. The Special Committee was established by the General Assembly pursuant to its resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961. The Committee was requested to examine the application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration.

3. At its seventeenth session, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 1/ the General Assembly adopted resolution 1810 (XVII) of 17 December 1962, by which it enlarged the Special Committee with the addition of seven new members. It invited the Committee "to continue to seek the most suitable ways and means for the speedy and total application of the Declaration to all Territories which have not yet attained independence".

4. At the same session, by resolution 1805 (XVII) of 14 December 1962 on the question of South West Africa, the General Assembly requested the Special Committee to discharge, mutatis mutandis, the tasks assigned to the Special Committee for South West Africa by resolution 1702 (XVI) of 19 December 1961. By resolution 1806 (XVII) of 14 December 1962, the Assembly decided to dissolve the Special Committee for South West Africa.

5. By resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, the General Assembly decided to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations.

6. At the same session and at each subsequent session, the General Assembly, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 2/ has adopted a resolution renewing the mandate of the Committee.

7. At its thirty-fifth session, the General Assembly, on the basis of a recommendation of the Special Committee, adopted resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980, the annex to which contains the Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

8. At its forty-third session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 43/47 of 22 November 1988 relating to the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the operative paragraphs of which read as follows:

"1. Declares the period 1990-2000 as the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

"2. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session a report that would enable the Assembly to consider and adopt an action plan aimed at ushering in the twenty-first century, a world free from colonialism".

9. At its forty-fourth session, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 3/ the General Assembly adopted resolution 44/101 of 11 December 1989 in which it, inter alia:

"5. Approves the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering the work during 1989, including the programme of work envisaged for 1990; 4/

"...

"11. Requests the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in all Territories that have not yet attained independence and, in particular:

"(a) To formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session;

"(b) To make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security;

"(c) To continue to examine the compliance of Member States with resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

"(d) To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of visiting missions to those Territories whenever the Special Committee deems it appropriate, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence;

"(e) To take all necessary steps to enlist world-wide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations having a special interest in decolonization, for the achievement of the objectives of

the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

"12. Calls upon the administering Powers to continue to co-operate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to permit the access of visiting missions to the Territories to secure first-hand information and ascertain the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants and urges, in particular, those administering Powers which do not participate in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its 1990 session;".

10. At the same session, the General Assembly, on the basis of the recommendation of the Special Committee, adopted resolution 44/100 of 11 December 1989, the annex to which contains the Programme of Activities in Observance of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. The operative paragraphs of the resolution read as follows:

"1. Approves the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples 5/ and endorses the Programme of Activities in Observance of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples set out in the annex to the present resolution;

"2. Commends the Programme, for appropriate action, to all States, the United Nations bodies concerned, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and the non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization;

"3. Requests the Secretary-General to assist in the implementation of the present resolution and, in particular, to make adequate resources available for undertaking the measures envisaged in the Programme;

"4. Requests the Special Committee to follow closely the implementation of the Programme and to report to the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

11. At the same session, the General Assembly adopted decision 44/429 of 11 December 1989 relating to the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism. The text of the decision reads as follows:

"The General Assembly took note of the interim report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism 6/ and recommended that the Secretary-General should request those States and organizations of the United Nations system which had not yet done so to reply not later than 1 April 1990 to his communication of 31 January 1989, and that he should invite them once again to submit suggestions so that they might be taken into account in the final report to be submitted to the Assembly at its forty-fifth session, which report would enable the Assembly to consider and adopt an action plan aimed at ushering in, in the twenty-first century, a world free from colonialism."

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12. Prior to the adoption of resolutions 44/100 relating to the Programme of Activities in Observance of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Declaration; 44/101, by which the General Assembly approved the proposals contained in the report of the Special Committee regarding the Committee's proposed programme of work for 1990; and 44/102 of 11 December 1989 concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, the Assembly had before it the report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of the recommendations contained in the draft resolutions. 7/ Consideration of this matter by the Fifth Committee was based on the related statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.5/44/46) and the oral statement by the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (see A/C.5/44/SR.54).

13. As of 1 January 1990, the Special Committee was composed of the following 24 members: Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Mali, Norway, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. The membership in 1989 of the subsidiary bodies of the Committee is given in the annex to the present document.

II. RESOLUTIONS, CONSENSUSES AND DECISIONS CONCERNING SPECIFIC ITEMS CONSIDERED BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE IN 1989

14. As mentioned in section I above, the General Assembly, by paragraph 11 of its resolution 44/101, requested the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of resolution 1514 (XV) in all Territories that had not yet attained independence and, in particular, to formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism. The Assembly also adopted 19 other resolutions, 2 consensuses and 5 decisions relating to specific items considered by the Committee in 1989. The relevant measures taken are listed below. Members will wish to take them into account in drawing up the Committee's programme of work for 1990.

15. At the 85th plenary meeting, on 22 December 1989, the President of the General Assembly announced that the Assembly would retain the question of Namibia on the agenda of its forty-fourth session. The Special Committee would similarly retain the item on its agenda, subject to any directives that the General Assembly might give in that connection during its forty-fourth session.

A. Resolutions, consensuses and decisions concerning specific Territories

1. Resolutions

Territory	Resolution No.	Date of adoption
Western Sahara	44/88	11 December 1989
New Caledonia	44/89	11 December 1989
Tokelau	44/90	11 December 1989
Cayman Islands	44/91	11 December 1989
Bermuda	44/92	11 December 1989
Turks and Caicos Islands	44/93	11 December 1989
Anguilla	44/94	11 December 1989
British Virgin Islands	44/95	11 December 1989
Montserrat	44/96	11 December 1989
American Samoa	44/97	11 December 1989
Guam	44/98	11 December 1989
United States Virgin Islands	44/99	11 December 1989

2. Consensuses

Territory	Decision No.	Date of adoption
Gibraltar	44/426	11 December 1989
Pitcairn	44/427	11 December 1989

3. Decisions

Territory	Decision No.	Date of adoption
East Timor	44/402	22 September 1989
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	44/406	1 November 1989
St. Helena	44/428	11 December 1989

B. Resolutions concerning other items

Item	Resolution No.	Date of adoption
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations	44/83	11 December 1989
Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Namibia and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa	44/84	11 December 1989
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	44/85	11 December 1989
United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa	44/86	11 December 1989
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories	44/87	11 December 1989
Programme of Activities in Observance of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	44/100	11 December 1989
Dissemination of information on decolonization	44/102	11 December 1989

C. Decisions concerning other questions

Question	Decision No.	Date of adoption
Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples	44/425	11 December 1989
International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism	44/429	11 December 1989

III. OTHER RESOLUTIONS RELEVANT TO THE WORK OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

16. Other resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session which are relevant to the work of the Special Committee are listed below:

Item	Resolution No. and date of adoption	Points relevant to programme of work
Death sentence passed on a South African patriot	44/1 28 September 1989	-
Emergency assistance to Antigua and Barbuda, the British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Montserrat and Saint Kitts and Nevis	44/3 12 October 1989	-
Co-operation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States	44/7 17 October 1989	paragraph 5
Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference	44/8 18 October 1989	paragraph 4
Achievements of the International Year of Peace	44/11 24 October 1989	-
Co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity	44/17 1 November 1989	-
Zone of peace and co-operation of the South Atlantic	44/20 14 November 1989	paragraph 3
Convention on the Rights of the Child	44/25 20 November 1989	-
Policies of <u>apartheid</u> of the Government of South Africa	44/27 A-L 22 November 1989	-
International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries	44/34 4 December 1989	-
Questions relating to information	44/50 8 December 1989	-
Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination	44/52 8 December 1989	-

Item	Resolution No. and date of adoption	Points relevant to programme of work
Popular participation in its various forms as an important factor in development and in the full realization of all human rights	44/53 8 December 1989	-
World social situation	44/56 8 December 1989	paragraph 12
Policies and programmes involving youth	44/59 8 December 1989	-
Right to development	44/62 8 December 1989	paragraph 1
Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	44/68 8 December 1989	-
Status of the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid	44/69 8 December 1989	-
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	44/73 8 December 1989	-
Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women	44/77 8 December 1989	paragraph 9
Importance of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination and of the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights	44/79 8 December 1989	-
Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination	44/80 8 December 1989	-
Use of mercenaries as a means to violate human rights and to impede the exercise of the right of people to self-determination	44/81 8 December 1989	-
Implementation of the Declaration on the Denuclearization of Africa	44/113 A and B 15 December 1989	-

Item	Resolution No. and date of adoption	Points relevant to programme of work
Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session	44/119 F 15 December 1989	-
Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security	44/126 15 December 1989	paragraph 4
International Covenants on Human Rights	44/129 15 December 1989	paragraph 15
International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa	44/136 15 December 1989	-
Torture and inhuman treatment of children in detention in South Africa and Namibia	44/143 15 December 1989	paragraph 5
Enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections	44/146 15 December 1989	-
Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral process	44/147 15 December 1989	paragraph 8
Measures to improve the situation and ensure the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers	44/155 15 December 1989	paragraph 5
World conference on human rights	44/156 15 December 1989	paragraph 1
Assistance to student refugees in southern Africa	44/157 15 December 1989	-
Summary or arbitrary executions	44/159 15 December 1989	paragraph 3
Integration of women in development	44/171 19 December 1989	-
Special assistance to front-line States	44/181 19 December 1989	-

Item	Resolution No. and date of adoption	Points relevant to programme of work
Financing of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group	44/191 21 December 1989	-
Programme budget for the biennium 1988-1989	44/193 A and B 21 December 1989	-
Programme planning	44/194 21 December 1989	-
Current financial crisis and financial emergency of the United Nations	44/195 A and B 21 December 1989	-
Pattern of conferences	44/196 A-C 21 December 1989	-
Implementation of General Assembly resolution 41/213	44/200 A and B 21 December 1989	-
Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991	44/201 B (V) 21 December 1989	-
Programme budget for the biennium 1990-1991	44/202 A-C 21 December 1989	-
Unforseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1990-1991	44/203 21 December 1989	-
Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1990-1991	44/204 21 December 1989	-
Co-operation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference	44/221 22 December 1989	-

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 25, document A/5238.

2/ See the reports of the Special Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its eighteenth to forty-second sessions. For the most recent, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-second Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/42/23); ibid., Forty-third Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/43/23); and ibid., Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/44/23).

Notes (continued)

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/44/23).

4/ Ibid., chap. I, paras. 125-137.

5/ Ibid., chap. II.

6/ A/44/800.

7/ A/44/860.

Annex

MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE IN 1989

Working Group

Committee officers:

Ethiopia (Chairman)
Cuba (Vice-Chairman)
Norway (Vice-Chairman)
Czechoslovakia (Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance)
Syrian Arab Republic (Rapporteur)

Officers of the Sub-Committee on Small Territories:

Tunisia (Chairman)
Norway (Rapporteur)

Other members:

Congo
Fiji
Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance

Afghanistan
Bulgaria
Congo
Cuba
Czechoslovakia (Chairman)
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Mali
Sierra Leone
Syrian Arab Republic
Tunisia
United Republic of Tanzania

Sub-Committee on Small Territories

Afghanistan
Bulgaria
Chile
Côte d'Ivoire
Cuba
Czechoslovakia
Ethiopia
Fiji
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Mali
Norway (Rapporteur)
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia (Chairman)
United Republic of Tanzania
Venezuela
Yugoslavia

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Note by the Chairman

1. Subsidiary bodies

1. Having regard to the expected work-load of the Special Committee for the current session and in the light of past experience, it is suggested that the Special Committee maintain the Working Group as a steering committee, as well as the Sub-Committee on Small Territories and the Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance, subject to any modification in their membership that it might deem appropriate.

2. Allocation of items and procedure for consideration

2. Annexed to the present note is a list of matters pending for consideration by the Special Committee during the year, together with an indication of the procedure that the Committee may wish to adopt. An indication is also given of the suggested allocation with regard to each item.

3. It is understood in that connection that, in their examination of the items allocated for their respective consideration, the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies should take into account the resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session that are relevant to the work of the Committee, as listed in the note by the Secretary-General (A/AC.109/L.1717). It is also understood that they should continue to be guided by the relevant provisions of the programme of action for the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, adopted by the General Assembly in connection with the tenth anniversary of the

Declaration (resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970), and the Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration, adopted on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration (resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980, annex), as well as the resolution adopted by the Assembly on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration (resolution 40/56 of 2 December 1985).

3. Order of priority for consideration of items

4. The Chairman will hold consultations with regard to the order of priority to be given for consideration of items in plenary meetings.

5. The Chairman will also continue his consultations concerning specific activities envisaged under the Programme of Activities in Observance of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 44/100 of 11 December 1989.

6. It is suggested that the two sub-committees should commence their substantive work in accordance with the schedule of meetings as approved by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session (A/44/23 (Part I), chap. I, para. 64), taking into account the Programme of Activities referred to in paragraph 5 above.

4. Recommendations of the Special Committee to the General Assembly

7. In accordance with paragraph 31 of General Assembly decision 34/401, and in the light of past experience, it is suggested that the Special Committee continue to follow the procedure adopted at its 1982 session, 1/ in connection with the formulation of its recommendations to the Assembly at the forty-fifth session.

5. Utilization of conference-servicing resources

8. At its forty-fourth session, the General Assembly decided to waive rules 67 and 108 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in order to permit meetings to be declared open and debates to proceed without the presence of the quorum required under those rules. The Assembly also decided that morning meetings should begin at 10 a.m.

9. As those measures have further enhanced the effective utilization of conference-servicing resources, it is suggested that the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies continue to follow the same procedure. It should be understood that, in accordance with the rules cited, the presence of a majority of members would continue to be required for any decisions to be taken.

10. In the same context, the presiding officers of the Sub-Committees are kindly requested, as far as possible, to schedule meetings only when a sufficient number of speakers will ensure full utilization of the time allotted and also to minimize the wastage in conference resources resulting from the cancellation of scheduled meetings. They are also requested to continue the practice of holding extensive consultations and informal meetings whenever possible, with a view to reducing the number of formal meetings to a minimum.

Notes

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/37/23/Rev.1), chap. I, paras. 60-69.

Annex

MATTERS PENDING FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE DURING 1990

Question	Allocation	Procedure for consideration
East Timor	Plenary	As separate item
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	"	"
Gibraltar	"	"
Namibia	"	"
New Caledonia	"	"
Western Sahara	"	"
Programme of Activities in Observance of the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (General Assembly resolution 44/100)	Plenary/ Working Group	As appropriate
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations and related questions (General Assembly resolution 44/83)	Plenary	As separate item
Special Committee decision of 17 August 1989 concerning Puerto Rico (A/44/23 (Part I), chap. I, para. 48)	"	"
Activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Namibia and in all other Territories under colonial domination and efforts to eliminate colonialism, apartheid and racial discrimination in southern Africa (General Assembly resolution 44/84)	Plenary/ Sub-Committee on Small Territories	As appropriate

Question	Allocation	Procedure for consideration
Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration which might be impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (General Assembly decision 44/425)	"	"
American Samoa	Sub-Committee on Small Territories	To be decided by Sub-Committee
Anguilla	"	"
Bermuda	"	"
British Virgin Islands	"	"
Cayman Islands	"	"
Guam	"	"
Montserrat	"	"
Pitcairn	"	"
St. Helena	"	"
Tokelau	"	"
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands	"	"
Turks and Caicos Islands	"	"
United States Virgin Islands	"	"
International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (General Assembly resolution 43/47 and decision 44/429))	Plenary/ Working Group	As appropriate
Question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters	Working Group	"
Question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable	"	"
Pattern of conferences (General Assembly resolution 44/196)	"	"

Question	Allocation	Procedure for consideration
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 44/85)	Plenary/ Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance	As separate item
Question of sending visiting missions to Territories (para. 12 of General Assembly resolution 44/101)	Plenary/ Sub-Committee on Small Territories	As appropriate
Dissemination of information on decolonization (General Assembly resolution 44/102)	Plenary/ sub-committees	"
Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Namibia and All Other Colonial Territories, as well as Those in South Africa, Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights	Plenary/ Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance	"
United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (General Assembly resolution 44/86)	Plenary	To be taken into consideration in examination of specific Territories
Matters relating to the small Territories (para. 11 (d) of General Assembly resolution 44/101)	Plenary/ Sub-Committee on Small Territories	"
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (art. 15 of the Convention)	"	"
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (General Assembly resolution 44/87)	"	"
Compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on decolonization (para. 11 (c) of General Assembly resolution 44/101)	"	"

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-EIGHTH REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS, INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Chairman: Mr. Alexander SLABY (Czechoslovakia)

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

I. MANDATE OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. At its 1362nd meeting, on 22 January 1990, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of the Committee's work (A/AC.109/L.1718), the Special Committee decided to maintain its Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance with the same membership as in 1989. 1/ At the same meeting, following a statement by the Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1362), the Committee unanimously elected Mr. Alexander Slaby (Czechoslovakia) Chairman of the Sub-Committee.

2. By the same decision, the Special Committee decided to allocate the following items to the Sub-Committee for consideration and recommendations:

(a) Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 44/85);

(b) Dissemination of information on decolonization (General Assembly resolution 44/102);

(c) Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Namibia and All Other Colonial Territories, as well as Those in South Africa, Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights;

(d) International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (art. 15 of the Convention).

II. PROGRAMME OF WORK

3. At its 469th meeting, on 23 March 1989, the Sub-Committee considered its programme of work and approved the following programme for 1990:

(a) Dissemination of information on decolonization;

(b) Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations;

(c) Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories, as well as Those in South Africa, Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights (21-25 May 1990);*

(d) Consultations with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and representatives of national liberation movements regarding questions of information and assistance;

(e) Consultations with relevant non-governmental organizations on questions relating to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

(f) Examination of the progress made in the carrying into effect of the Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980;

(g) International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (art. 15);

(h) Examination of petitions.

4. In connection with item (d), the Sub-Committee decided to remain in close contact with the Executive Secretary of OAU to the United Nations and the national liberation movements and to hold consultations with them, as appropriate, on the related items.

5. In connection with items (g) and (h), the Sub-Committee decided to examine petitions as and when received, including those falling within the purview of article 15 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and to make recommendations thereon, as appropriate.

6. The Sub-Committee decided to hold open meetings in order to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on the related work of the United Nations, as directed by the General Assembly. With regard to item (b), the Sub-Committee decided that consultations with the specialized agencies could be held in closed meetings whenever appropriate.

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* The title of the Week has been adjusted in the light of Namibia's attainment of independence.

III. PATTERN OF CONFERENCES

7. In accordance with the related decisions of the Special Committee, 2/ approved by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session, the Sub-Committee decided to hold two to three meetings a week in order to conclude its work by mid-June, it being understood that the possibility of holding extra meetings would not be precluded if developments so required.

8. So as to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on the related work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, as directed by the General Assembly and in keeping with the long-established practice of the Special Committee, meetings of the Sub-Committee would in principle be held in open session unless it would be decided otherwise in the light of specific requirements.

9. By approving the suggestions contained in the note by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1718, paras. 8-10), the Special Committee decided, at its 1362nd meeting, on 22 January, to follow the procedure adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session to waive rules 67 and 108 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, in order to permit meetings to be declared open and debates to proceed without the presence of the quorum required under those rules.

10. The Special Committee also requested the presiding officers of the Sub-Committees to schedule meetings, as far as possible, only when a sufficient number of speakers would ensure full utilization of the time allotted, as well as to minimize the wastage of conference resources resulting from the cancellation of scheduled meetings. Further, the Committee requested the presiding officers to continue the practice of holding extensive consultations and informal meetings whenever possible, with a view to reducing the number of formal meetings to a minimum.

11. The Special Committee decided that it should continue to take further measures with a view to ensuring the maximum reduction in documentation requirements.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

12. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at its 470th meeting, on 28 March 1990, by consensus.

Notes

1/ Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Mali, Sierra Leone, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and United Republic of Tanzania.

2/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/44/23 (Part I), para. 62).

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-NINTH REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS, INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Chairman: Mr. Alexander SLABY (Czechoslovakia)

WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLES OF ALL COLONIAL TERRITORIES, AS WELL AS THOSE IN SOUTH AFRICA, FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM, INDEPENDENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

(21-25 May 1990)

INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with its programme of work for 1990 (see A/AC.109/L.1719, paras. 3-6) adopted at its 470th meeting, on 28 March 1990, the Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance considered the item on the Week of Solidarity at its 477th meeting, on 3 May 1990.

I. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Having concluded its examination of the item relating to the Week of Solidarity, the Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations to the Special Committee for its consideration and approval. The following activities should be undertaken during and in the framework of the Week:

(a) The Chairman of the Special Committee should issue a press statement on the Week of Solidarity, which should be given maximum publicity by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat;

(b) Activities in connection with the Week should be announced at the daily briefing for the members of the press corps, who should be invited to attend those activities;

(c) Dispatches covering activities in connection with the Week should be sent to the Pool of Non-Aligned Agencies;

(d) A briefing should be held for non-governmental organizations concerned with colonial questions;

(e) A public screening of films on the same subject should be held;

(f) The weekly News Digest should report on activities undertaken during the week;

(g) Information regarding the Week should be included in the booklet Notes for Speakers;

(h) During the Week, anti-apartheid radio programmes should include coverage of all activities in connection with the Week;

(i) In response to the mandate contained in paragraph 3 (c) of General Assembly resolution 44/102 of 11 December 1989, the United Nations information centres should intensify their activities in connection with the Week. In this connection, United Nations information centres and other United Nations field offices should organize public information programmes, particularly for non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization, for the promotion of the Week, using printed and audio-visual materials provided by Headquarters;

(j) The Special Committee should also request that information on all colonial Territories be given wider dissemination during the Week.

II. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

3. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report by consensus at its 477th meeting, on 3 May 1990.

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTIETH REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS, INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Chairman: Mr. Alexander SLABÝ (Czechoslovakia)

QUESTION OF DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON DECOLONIZATION

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INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with its programme of work for 1990 (see A/AC.109/L.1719, paras. 3-6), adopted at its 469th meeting, on 23 March 1990, the Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance considered the question of dissemination of information on decolonization at its 469th to 472nd and 479th meetings, between 23 March and 12 June 1990.

2. In its consideration of the item, the Sub-Committee held consultations with representatives of the Department of Public Information and of the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship of the Secretariat.

3. At its 473rd meeting, on 11 April 1990, the Sub-Committee heard a petitioner, Mr. J. A. González-González, a journalist based at the United Nations, who spoke of his experience in the dissemination of information on decolonization by the Secretariat.

I. CONSULTATIONS WITH THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

4. In their statements, the representatives of the Department of Public Information said that the Department's activities encompassing the fields of press, publication, radio, video, film, relations with non-governmental organizations, information centres and public inquiries covered all aspects of decolonization and related issues, including the question of Namibia, the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

5. There had been more focus on information activities concerning Namibia during 1989 than in previous years because of United Nations involvement in the implementation of that country's independence process, which had begun on 1 April 1989. The Department had provided extensive coverage of all developments which occurred during the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) of 29 September 1978 leading to the independence of Namibia, including the emplacement of the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) in Namibia, the repatriation of Namibian refugees, the deliberations of the Security Council on the situation in Namibia, the Secretary-General's visit to Namibia, the voter-registration process, the electoral process and the results of the elections in Namibia, as well as the first session of the Constituent Assembly in Namibia.

6. As part of its regular coverage of United Nations activities, the Department's News Coverage Service had continued to report on the work of the various United Nations bodies concerned with decolonization. In 1989, the Department had issued 131 press releases in English and 94 in French on the work of the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly, the Trusteeship Council, the Special Committee on decolonization and its two sub-committees, the Special Committee against Apartheid

and the United Nations Council for Namibia. Press releases had also been issued for the various seminars and symposia related to the issue of decolonization.

7. The press releases on decolonization had contained both background information on the work of the deliberative bodies mentioned above as well as detailed accounts of their discussions and decisions. Statements by the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the Chairman of the Special Committee on subjects related to decolonization had also been issued as press releases. The Department had given extensive coverage to United Nations activities related to the Namibian independence process.

8. The information contained in the press releases had been used not only by the international media, but also by non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, Governments, and various organizations of the United Nations system. Within the Department of Public of Information, the press releases had been used as a basis for the preparation of Daily Highlights, the UN Chronicle, the Yearbook of the United Nations, pamphlets and other publications, daily briefings and radio news summaries. The United Nations information centres had disseminated the information on decolonization contained in the press releases to a world-wide audience. The Department had also sent telegrams based on these releases to the Pool of Non-Aligned News Agencies.

9. United Nations work in the field of decolonization had continued to be regularly covered both in general reference works of the Department of Public Information (Yearbook of the United Nations and Everyone's United Nations), as well as in the periodical UN Chronicle.

10. During 1989, the UN Chronicle, which is published quarterly in six languages, had carried news items relating to the Fourth Committee, the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee. The cover feature of one issue had been devoted to Namibia and the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978). In the latest volume of the Yearbook of the United Nations, published in November 1989, a chapter was devoted to trusteeship and decolonization issues. Among other things, the chapter dealt with general questions concerning Non-Self-Governing Territories.

11. The Department of Public Information had published a brochure entitled Decolonization, detailing the work of the United Nations in the decolonization process, summarizing the 1960 Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and describing the work of the Special Committee. It had also produced a press kit on UNTAG, another on the independence process in Namibia and an updated kit on the elections to the Constituent Assembly. In addition, several aspects of the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization had been highlighted in the 1989 edition of Notes for Speakers, a publication designed for those who prepare speeches and briefings on the United Nations for general audiences. In particular, Namibia's transition to independence had been included in the section on peacemaking, and the right to self-determination of all peoples had been discussed in the chapter devoted to human rights.

12. The Department had produced many feature programmes, both in official and non-official languages of the United Nations, devoted exclusively to the questions of Namibia and decolonization, in addition to short items in news and current affairs radio magazines.

13. Namibia had been featured in three editions of "Perspective", a weekly in-depth radio programme which had subsequently been translated into both official and non-official languages of the United Nations, including Chinese, French, Kiswahili, Portuguese, Russian and Turkish, and distributed on tape to some 350 radio stations world wide. "Southern Africa Review", a twice-weekly radio programme translated into the Afrikaans, Sesotho, Setswana, Xhosa and Zulu languages, had devoted 17 programmes exclusively to Namibia's independence and UNTAG. A special radio documentary programme in the series "One South Africa" had been devoted to assistance projects for the future Government of Namibia. Namibia had been featured in two editions of "Afakon Alamiva/Al-Majallatu Al-Natika", a weekly programme in Arabic, and had been the main topic in two editions of a weekly radio programme in Russian.

14. "UN Africa", a monthly 30-minute programme in English, had provided extensive coverage on Namibia, as had editions of "Antar Rashtriye Patrika" in Hindi and "Fokus Fokus Kita" in Indonesian. "Despacho Semanal", a weekly radio programme in Spanish, had also devoted three editions exclusively to Namibia, as had "Perspectives internationales", a weekly radio programme in French. Eight feature radio programmes had been produced in Portuguese covering developments in Namibia and the activities of UNTAG.

15. With regard to other decolonization issues, the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (1990-2000) had been featured in one edition of "UN Caribbean Magazine", a weekly radio programme in English. The work of the Special Committee had been featured in the weekly French programme "Bonjour l'Afrique" and in editions of "Southern Africa Review". The activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding the implementation of the Declaration had been the main topic of one edition of "L'Afrique à l'ONU". "Decolonization by the year 2000" was the title of one edition of "Afakon Alamiaya", a weekly programme in Arabic.

16. Editions of "UN Calling Asia", a programme in English, and the Department's weekly programme in Urdu had featured Trusteeship Council action on the question of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. "N.U. em Acçao", a weekly radio programme in Portuguese, had produced an edition on Western Sahara, as had "L'Afrique à l'ONU" and "Perspectives internationales". "Perspectives internationales" and "Actualidades", a programme in Portuguese, had featured Puerto Rico.

17. Five editions of "UN Caribbean Magazine" had dealt with the questions of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean. "Nouveaux contacts", a weekly French-Creole radio programme, had featured the first referendum in the history of the United States Virgin Islands. "Afakon Alamiaya", a weekly programme in Arabic, had covered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas). The question of New Caledonia had been covered by a weekly programme in Urdu.

18. Special radio interviews on the issue of decolonization had been held with the following: Mr. Anthony B. Nyakyi, Permanent Representative to the United Nations of the United Republic of Tanzania, for "Mwangaza wa Umoja wa Mataifa", a weekly programme in Kiswahili; Mr. Legwaila Joseph Legwaila, Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Namibia, for a telephone "feed" to southern Africa; and Mr. Robert Van Lierop of Vanuatu, Chairman of the General Assembly's Fourth Committee, for "One South Africa", "Nouveaux contacts" in French Creole and "Nieuwe Connectices" in Dutch-Papiamento.

19. The Department had sent United Nations television/video producers and crew to Namibia to cover the different phases of the UNTAG operation, the voter registration and electoral processes and the results of the elections. The Secretary-General's visit to Namibia had also been covered. A 20-minute video documentary on Namibia: the first phase of UNTAG's operation had been produced in English, French and Spanish for world-wide distribution.

20. The UN in Action had covered the activities of UNTAG, the return of refugees and the voter registration process. Programmes had been produced in Arabic, English, French, Russian and Spanish. The Cable News Network (CNN) in the United States of America had used these programmes and three special video programmes on Namibia had been produced specifically for the network. A 30-minute television/video programme, World Chronicle, had featured Mr. Martti Ahtisaari, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Namibia, who spoke on the role and task of UNTAG for the independence of Namibia.

21. The Department had also continued to prepare and distribute television news packages to subscribers and syndicators world wide on decolonization subjects as diverse as the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Puerto Rico and apartheid. It had also covered the deliberations of the Fourth Committee, including a speech by the Reverend Jesse Jackson; the work of the Commission against Apartheid in Sports; and meetings of the Security Council on Namibia.

22. The Department's Photo Unit had provided continuous coverage of United Nations meetings on decolonization and its output had been distributed to information centres, non-governmental organizations and to the media on request. In 1989, the Photo Unit had made available 73 new negatives on decolonization in Non-Self-Governing Territories (excluding Namibia) and had distributed 650 prints to information centres. On Namibia, it had made available about 175 negatives resulting from four photo missions and approximately 4,000 prints had been distributed. The Photo Library of the Information Products Division had filled requests for 140 photographs on decolonization-related matters.

23. In 1989, the Department had sold telecast rights to the City University of New York to two films on decolonization: From Rhodesia to Zimbabwe and The Great Awakening.

24. The United Nations information centres and information services had continued in their task of informing the public world wide of the activities of the Organization, especially those relating to decolonization. They had disseminated information material provided by Headquarters to the local media, non-governmental

organizations, government agencies, educators and academic institutions on subjects such as Namibia, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and the activities of the Fourth Committee and the Special Committee.

25. In addition to information activities undertaken with regard to decolonization in general, United Nations information centres, particularly those in Africa, had concentrated much of their work on United Nations activities in the Namibian independence process. Observances such as those of the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Namibia and All Other Colonial Territories, as well as Those in South Africa, Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights, and the International Day of Solidarity with the Struggle of Women of South Africa and Namibia had provided opportunities for disseminating information on United Nations activities on decolonization.

26. The public information activities of the information centres and information services had included the mounting of exhibits, the screening of films, the production of background materials, the publication of newsletters and news bulletins, the production of press kits, addressing briefings, translation and dissemination of materials from Headquarters such as background notes, press releases and documents, participation in seminars and lectures and the granting of interviews.

27. A partial compilation of decolonization activities undertaken by information centres and information services shows varied activities, such as those mentioned above, being undertaken by centres and services at Athens, Baghdad, Beirut, Bogota, Brazzaville, Bucharest, Cairo, Colombo, Dakar, Dhaka, Harare, Islamabad, Jakarta, Kabul, Kinshasa, Lagos, La Paz, Lima, Lomé, New Delhi, Ouagadougou, Panama City, Port of Spain, Prague, Rabat, Rio de Janeiro, Santiago, Sydney, Tripoli and Yaoundé.

28. Approximately 1,000 non-governmental organizations were associated with the Department. Information materials relating to decolonization and the work of the Special Committee, including the periodical Objective: Justice, as well as other publications, documents and studies on decolonization, had been displayed and had been disseminated to them through the NGO Resources Centre.

29. During 1989, the NGO Resources Centre had included several decolonization-related information materials relating, in particular, to southern Africa and Namibia, in 17 mailings to non-governmental organizations associated with the Department. The Centre had distributed fliers on the role of transnational corporations in Namibia and South Africa and on decolonization and had aired weekly briefings on United Nations activities for representatives of approximately 200 non-governmental organizations. The briefings had been conducted by senior officials of the Secretariat such as Mr. Martti Ahtisaari, on such subjects as Namibia, the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee on decolonization.

30. During 1989, decolonization had continued to be an integral part of the information provided during guided tours at United Nations Headquarters; some 515,325 visitors had joined guided tours that year. The Department had responded to public inquiries and requests for information by distributing, either as

hand-outs or through the mail, publications, pamphlets, booklets and brochures. In all, the Public Inquiries Unit had received 662 requests for information on decolonization.

31. During their discussions with the representative of the Department, members of the Sub-Committee requested clarification regarding the Department's plans for coverage of decolonization issues given the fact that Namibia has achieved its independence.

32. Some delegations requested clarification regarding the extent of the Department's coverage of Namibia's independence. In reply, the representatives of the Department said they had neither the technical nor the financial resources to undertake the task of providing live radio and television coverage of the independence day ceremonies directly from Windhoek to listeners and viewers around the world.

33. In co-operation with the Namibia Broadcasting Corporation (NBC), however, the Department had provided an in-house audience with live sound coverage, including commentaries by an officer from the Department's Radio Section and an NBC commentator on the ceremonies, including the fireworks display. The following day, recorded sound excerpts were included in United Nations radio news bulletins and were made available to radio stations in North America and Latin America, which normally call at their own expense. On 23 March, radio programmes on current affairs, including "World in Review", "UN Newsbrief" and "Bonjour l'Afrique", which are broadcast weekly over shortwave transmitters of some Member States, included excerpts from the ceremonies.

34. Further, in fulfilment of its mandate, the Department had provided radio and television stations with in-depth programmes for broadcast on or around 21 March, Namibia's independence day. On 20 March, in particular, the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation aired the United Nations radio programme "Namibia: A Trust Redeemed, the Role of UNTAG", and showed the United Nations video United Nations Namibia Independence - the Elections.

35. The representative of the Department stated that radio and television teams were in Namibia collecting materials for documentary and feature programmes on the whole Namibian decolonization process, for release in the next few months.

36. The representative further stated that the coverage had actually begun in March 1989 with the sending of a photographer to Namibia. A television team had begun its coverage in April 1989. The coverage was directed at returnees, followed by the elections and the independence ceremonies. He added that there were still some activities relating to Namibia that the Department would cover, such as Namibia's admission to the United Nations, which would be an occasion for using much of the material that had been gathered by United Nations film makers, television producers, photographers and others.

37. With regard to how the Department would be dealing with the remaining decolonization issues, the representative stated that, at present, responsibility within the Department for those issues rested with the Anti-apartheid, Namibia and

Palestine Programmes Section of the Communications and Project Management Division. The events of 1989, such as the independence of Namibia, would undoubtedly require an adjustment of those responsibilities and the title of the section could include any number of issues with which the Department was involved. As for new resources being released, he said no commitment could be made since that was for the General Assembly to decide. The reallocation of funds was a possibility, but it did not fall under the competence of the Department.

38. Mr. J. A. González-González, a petitioner (see para. 3), recalled his previous statements before the Sub-Committee in which he had pointed out the need for accurate information on his country, Puerto Rico (see A/AC.109/L.1650, paras. 30-34, and A/AC.109/L.1685, paras. 39-41). He stated that information on decolonization issues should be disseminated in such a way as to advance the struggle for self-determination rather than to place an obstacle to decolonization.

39. Mr. González-González further stated that it was a well-known fact that the 19 colonial Territories being dealt with by the Special Committee did not constitute all of the colonial Territories existing in the world. The list should be expanded to include Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guiana and Tahiti, among others.

40. On the subject of visiting missions to observe acts of self-determination, Mr. González-González said that it would be better if the members of visiting missions stayed for several weeks in the Territories to observe, study and investigate what really was going on before an election was held. He hoped that the forthcoming regional seminars to be held in Vanuatu and Barbados would, inter alia, have a say on that matter.

II. CONSULTATIONS WITH THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR SPECIAL POLITICAL QUESTIONS, REGIONAL CO-OPERATION, DECOLONIZATION AND TRUSTEESHIP

41. In his statement before the Sub-Committee, the representative of the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship indicated that dissemination of information on decolonization continued to be one of the key activities of the Department. In its resolution 44/102 of 11 December 1989, the General Assembly had again given the Department a mandate to continue its publications, including the Decolonization series. In doing so, the General Assembly no doubt had taken into consideration, once again, the Department's long experience in that field.

42. Since the Department had been given that mandate, it had issued 38 Decolonization bulletins. It had also collaborated with the Department of Public Information in preparing publications issued under its auspices. The representative of the Department of Public Information pointed out that no decolonization-related publication had ever been issued by his Department without the Department for Special Political Questions being involved in its preparation, if only in verifying certain facts or references. The year 1989 had particularly exemplified that collaboration. The Department for Special Political Questions had

always collaborated with the Department of Public Information in the preparation of the many publications issued by the latter on the subject of Namibia and the other Territories, including the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

43. The United Nations information centres continued to play a major role in disseminating the publications produced by the Department for Special Political Questions to non-governmental organizations world wide, for the benefit of members of such organizations.

44. It was a known fact that it was those non-governmental organizations that sent the majority of the petitioners who were granted permission to address the Special Committee each year, expressing their opinions on the Committee's agenda items. The fact that those petitioners were fully conversant with the issues before the Committee was proof that they very diligently and attentively read the publications both of the Department for Special Questions and the Deparment of Public Information. The information the petitioners gave in return allowed the Committee to adjust its activities in disseminating information.

45. Another mandate which the General Assembly had given to the Department for Special Political Questions each year was to maintain close contact with such non-governmental organizations, particularly those that had always shown an interest in decolonization issues. The Department maintained contact with about 100 organizations world wide, and was aware of the potential impact of such organizations on public opinion in the countries where they operated. In that respect, those organizations were therefore the best channels of communication when it came to publicizing this Committee's work or mobilizing international public opinion in pursuit of the Committee's goals.

46. The year 1990, the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, would be marked by a number of events, all of which would afford opportunities to disseminate information on the decolonization process. The Special Committee expected, inter alia, to hold two regional seminars, the first at Port Vila, Vanuatu, from 9 to 11 May, and the second at Bridgetown, Barbados, from 19 to 21 June. The Department for Special Political Questions was engaged in planning those seminars. Its activities included the preparation of a number of background papers to be distributed to participants regarding the Special Committee's work as well as to participants from Territories, most of which were small islands and which comprised the vast majority of the remaining Territories, since the independence of Namibia had become a reality. Those papers would also be circulated as broadly as possible through the usual distribution channels. At the conclusion of the seminars, a final document would be published.

47. On the question of press, radio and television coverage of the seminars, the representative pointed out that the Department for Special Political Questions, in co-operation with the Department of Public Information, was developing an integrated programme encompassing those three avenues for the dissemination of information. If everything went according to plan, the thirtieth anniversary should give an opportunity to present, in addition to normal press coverage, an audio-visual programme with a segment devoted to the seminars.

48. Those seminars, whose guidelines and rules of procedures were outlined in document A/AC.109/1022, should be an occasion to undertake "a reassessment of the Committee's work, as well as its approach and methodology with regard to the implementation of its mandate ... with a view to paving the way for the formulation of new and effective means to enhance the discharge of the responsibility of the Committee through the speedy decolonization of all Territories under its mandate, giving particular attention to the specific problems faced by the small Territories in the Pacific and Caribbean regions in the exercise of the right of their peoples to self-determination". It was therefore evident that the Committee would attach great importance to publicizing the results of the seminars. The Department was mindful of the attendant responsibilities and would do its utmost to shoulder them. At the same time, it would continue the past practice of working to produce regular publications, in co-operation with the Department of Public Information, where applicable, and of responding to invitations transmitted by that Department to address various social groups, in accordance with the mandate given by the General Assembly.

III. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

49. Having concluded its examination of the item, the Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations for consideration and approval by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reiterates the importance of the United Nations effecting the widest possible dissemination of true, accurate and topical information on decolonization as an instrument for furthering the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and for mobilizing world public opinion in support of the peoples of colonial Territories and their national liberation movements in their efforts to achieve self-determination, freedom and independence.

(2) The Special Committee condemns the extensive links and collaboration between the apartheid régime of South Africa and certain Western countries and, especially, Israel in the political, economic, nuclear, military and other fields. The Committee also strongly denounces any attempts to misrepresent the struggle of the peoples of colonial Territories for freedom and independence as terrorist activities and to label the national liberation movements as terrorist organizations. The Committee therefore considers it imperative for the United Nations to take all possible steps to intensify its activities in the field of dissemination of information in order to counter such attempts and to make the international community and world public opinion aware that recognition by the United Nations of the legitimacy of the liberation struggle by the people of all colonial Territories entails as a corollary the extension of all moral and material support to them and their national liberation movements.

(3) The Special Committee reiterates the great importance it attaches to the work of the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship. It should be recalled that the Information Unit on

Decolonization in that Department was created in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 3164 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973 in order to collect, prepare and disseminate, on a continuous basis and in consultation with the Special Committee and the Department of Public Information, basic material, studies and articles relating to the problems of decolonization. The Committee urges the Department for Special Political Questions to take all necessary steps to enable it to continue to discharge its mandate, taking into account all the Territories under the consideration of the Committee.

(4) While noting the active participation of the Department of Public Information in the work of the Committee and its efforts to produce and disseminate information on decolonization, to monitor the responses received from the United Nations information centres and to report thereon, the Special Committee requests the Department:

(a) To continue to intensify, through all the means at its disposal, its work of publicity in the field of decolonization, basing its activities in this regard on the Charter; on the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960; the Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980; on the items on the agenda of the Special Committee; and on all relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and of other organs of the United Nations active in th field of decolonization;

(b) To underline in all its activities that, despite major achievements in the process of decolonization, colonialism has not been completely eradicated and that the activities of the United Nations in this field should be given high priority until all of the goals of the Declaration have been achieved;

(c) To provide world-wide dissemination of all activities regarding the observance of the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, in particular the regional seminars held at Port Vila, Vanuatu, in May 1990, and at Bridgetown, Barbados, in June 1990, as well as those activities relating to the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

(d) To provide wider dissemination of information on all remaining colonial Territories under the consideration of the Special Committee, including information on all military bases or facilities in any of those Territories;

(e) To provide wider dissemination, particularly through parliamentary bodies, non-governmental organizations, mass media and universities, in a clear and simple form accessible to the public, of basic decolonization resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including those adopted by the Special Committee, and other basic materials concerning decolonization and to distribute them, especially through United Nations information centres, in local languages when appropriate, in particular in those regions in which there are still colonial Territories, and in countries that are administering Powers;

(f) To continue to strengthen co-operation with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa and the United Nations information centres in Africa, as appropriate, with a view to developing a prompt and systematic exchange of information and publicity material;

(g) To continue to strengthen the efforts to counteract campaigns aimed at depicting the national liberation movements as terrorist organizations;

(h) To strengthen further its co-operation with the Pool of Non-Aligned News Agencies and to provide it on a regular basis with more varied publicity material and information concerning United Nations activities in the field of decolonization;

(i) To disseminate, to the maximum degree possible, materials prepared by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries concerning decolonization;

(j) To adopt measures aimed at providing full coverage of all activities of relevant United Nations bodies in the field of decolonization in press releases in both the English and French languages;

(k) To intensify the provision of information material on decolonization, including through exhibitions to be shown outside United Nations Headquarters, to all United Nations information centres and to increase its assistance to them in all of their activities in the field of decolonization;

(l) To take urgent measures, in co-operation with the Special Committee, so as to produce new visual material on the most vital problems of decolonization;

(m) To utilize materials pertaining to the participation of specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the decolonization process, and to distribute those materials, as appropriate, through the United Nations information centres.

(5) The Special Committee requests the Department of Public Information to provide it with feedback reports from the United Nations information centres regarding their activities of dissemination of information on decolonization and, in particular, on the activities undertaken in 1990 in relation to the celebration of the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of all Colonial Territories, as well as Those in South Africa, Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights, prior to the consideration of the celebration of the Week by the Sub-Committee in 1991.

(6) The Special Committee urges the Department of Public Information to intensify its efforts to ensure that information bodies provide better coverage of decolonization in all regions, in particular in some countries in Western Europe and North America.

(7) The Special Committee requests the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship, in co-operation with the Department of Public Information, to increase its speaking engagements at university campuses across North America and, if requested, in other regions on the subject of decolonization and to inform the Sub-Committee of the experience and the results achieved.

(8) The Special Committee requests the Department of Public Information and the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship to continue to take into consideration the important role being played by non-governmental organizations in the decolonization process and in the dissemination of information on the situation in all the remaining colonial Territories under the consideration of the Committee, by monitoring the activities of foreign economic interests impeding the implementation of the Declaration and by disseminating information on the aims, objectives and activities of national liberation movements. The Committee requests the two Departments to continue and intensify their co-operation with non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization, particularly through briefings on colonial issues and through the provision of relevant printed materials on decolonization.

(9) The Special Committee appeals to the mass media to regard it as their task to contribute to the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism by disseminating information on the current problems of decolonization and to render support to the peoples of the colonial countries.

(10) The Special Committee further appeals to the mass media to contribute to increasing public awareness of the close link between the struggle against colonialism and the struggle for international peace and security, in conformity with the provisions of the Charter and of the Declaration.

(11) The Special Committee expresses the view that the mass media could provide broader coverage of events and activities relating to the struggle against colonialism, such as conferences, seminars and round tables, as well as meetings of United Nations organs dealing with a particular question, and the publication and wide distribution of pertinent resolutions and decisions of such bodies.

(12) The Special Committee should continue in pursuance of its mandate, to consider new ways and means of increasing the effectiveness of the dissemination of information relating to decolonization. To this end, the Committee should, inter alia, hold consultations with non-United Nations media interested in the dissemination of information on decolonization.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

50. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report at its 479th meeting, on 12 June 1990.

51. The delegation of Czechoslovakia expressed the reservation of its Government with regard to paragraph 49 (2) of the report.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FIRST REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS, INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Chairman: Mr. Alexander SLABY (Czechoslovakia)

REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

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INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with its programme of work for 1990 (see A/AC.109/L.1719, paras. 3-6), adopted at its 469th meeting, on 23 March 1990, the Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance considered the question of the "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations" at its 474th-476th, 479th and 480th meetings, between 18 April and 29 June 1990.

2. At its 474th to 476th meetings, the Sub-Committee held consultations with representatives of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

3. The Sub-Committee expresses its appreciation to those specialized agencies that appeared before it for their co-operation and for their important contribution to its work.

4. An account of the information received by the Sub-Committee during the consultations on measures taken by the above-mentioned organizations in compliance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, which should be read in conjunction with the information contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the item (A/45/309), is reproduced in the annex to the present report (see A/AC.109/L.1722/Add.1).

I. CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT

5. At the 479th and 480th meetings, on 12 and 29 June 1990, respectively, the Chairman submitted to the Sub-Committee a draft report containing an account of the Sub-Committee's consideration of the item, as well as a set of draft conclusions and recommendations. The Sub-Committee adopted the conclusions and recommendations (see para. 6) at its 480th meeting.

II. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6. In the light of the consultations described in the annex to the present document (see A/AC.109/L.1722/Add.1) and in view of the urgent need to increase and accelerate concrete assistance to the colonial peoples in the colonial Territories, in particular the liberation movements of South Africa and other internationally recognized liberation movements, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, the Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for adoption:

(1) The Special Committee condemns the extensive links and collaboration between the apartheid régime of South Africa and certain Western countries, and especially Israel, in the political, diplomatic, economic, nuclear, military and other fields.

(2) The Special Committee recognizes the important role of the front-line States in the liberation struggle in southern Africa and urges the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system to extend within their competence, as a matter of priority, substantial material and other assistance to the front-line States in order to enable them to support more effectively the liberation struggle in southern Africa and to resist the violation of their sovereignty and territorial integrity by troops of the racist régime of South Africa.

(3) The Special Committee reiterates its firm position that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute, within their spheres of competence, to the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960.

(4) The Special Committee commends those specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system that have continued to co-operate with the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in the implementation of the Declaration and the other relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, and urges all the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system to accelerate the full and speedy implementation of the relevant provisions of those resolutions. The Special Committee urges those that have not already done so to include in the agenda of the regular meetings of their governing bodies a separate item on the progress they have made in the implement tion of the Declaration and the other relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, particularly on the assistance provided to colonial peoples and their national liberation movements.

(5) Once again, the Special Committee recommends that the attention of all specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should be drawn to the principle that recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the struggle of colonial peoples to exercise their right to self-determination and independence entails, as a corollary, the increase by the United Nations system of its moral and material assistance to the peoples of the colonial Territories, including those of South Africa, their national liberation movements and other internationally recognized liberation movements.

(6) The Special Committee continues to urge the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system to render or to continue to render, as a matter of urgency, all possible moral and material assistance to the colonial peoples struggling for their liberation. In this

connection, the Special Committee is of the opinion that all organizations concerned should initiate, in the case of those that have not yet done so, or broaden contacts and co-operation with those peoples and their national liberation movements directly or, where appropriate, through the relevant international bodies, and should work out and implement concrete programmes of assistance for those peoples with the active co-operation of their national liberation movements. The Specialized Committee is of the view that the assistance provided by the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system to the peoples of the colonial Territories, including those of South Africa, and their liberation movements and other internationally recognized liberation movements, should not only meet their immediate needs but also create conditions conducive to development after these peoples have exercised their right to self-determination and independence, taking into consideration the need to preserve indigenous cultures and traditions, as well as the benefits they may provide for development.

(7) The Special Committee urges the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system to assist in accelerating progress in all sectors of the national life of the small Territories, particularly in the development of their economies.

(8) The Special Committee commends the arrangements made by several specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system that enable representatives of the national liberation movements recognized by OAU and by the United Nations to participate fully as observers in the proceedings of these organizations relating to matters concerning their countries and calls upon those agencies and organizations that have not yet done so to follow this example and to make the necessary arrangements without delay.

(9) The Special Committee notes with satisfaction that the Namibian people continue to be the beneficiaries of a number of programmes established within the framework of the United Nations Fund for Namibia and the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa.

(10) The Special Committee emphasizes the importance of co-ordination at the country, regional and Headquarters levels of the programmes of assistance provided by the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system to the colonial peoples and their national liberation movements, including those of South Africa and other internationally recognized liberation movements. The Special Committee considers that such co-ordination would enable the peoples concerned to derive the maximum benefit from those programmes.

(11) The Special Committee takes note of the fact that some influential groups are encouraging the granting of a new loan to South Africa by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and, in this context, urges IMF to comply strictly with the relevant United Nations resolutions regarding South Africa and its apartheid policies.

(12) The Special Committee takes note of the statement made by the representative of the World Bank before the Sub-Committee on 18 April 1990, in which he indicated that South Africa was a member of the Bank but that the Bank had not granted any loans to South Africa since 1966 and that all loans made to, or guaranteed by, South Africa up to that time had been fully repaid. Therefore, the Bank did not have any outstanding loans to South Africa. Also, the last election for executive directors of the Bank Group in which South Africa had participated had been the one held in 1972; as a result, it was not represented on the Board of Executive Directors of the Bank, the International Development Association (IDA) or the International Finance Corporation (IFC). The Special Committee notes with deep concern that the World Bank continues to maintain certain financial and technical links with racist South Africa, as exemplified by the continued participation of South Africa in the work of that body, and is of the view that the World Bank should put an end to all links with that racist régime, as long as apartheid continues to exist.

(13) The Special Committee reiterates its firm conviction that, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, all specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should take all the measures necessary to stop all collaboration with or assistance to the racist régime of South Africa in financial, economic, technical, nuclear or other fields so as to compel that régime to implement the resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the apartheid régime and neighbouring States. The Special Committee is also of the view that these organizations should discontinue all collaboration with and support to that régime until apartheid has been eradicated and a non-racial, united and democratic State based on the will of all South African people has been established in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Security Council. The Special Committee commends all those agencies and organizations that have terminated relations with the racist South African régime and recommends that the General Assembly should hold accountable those agencies and organizations that continue to co-operate with, and extend such assistance to, South Africa.

(14) The Special Committee deeply deplores the granting, in disregard of relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, of a credit of $US 1.1 billion by IMF to South Africa in November 1982. The Special Committee takes note of the statement made by the representative of IMF on 20 April 1990, in which he said that South Africa had paid back to the Fund all the amounts it had borrowed, along with interest charges. The Special Committee is strongly convinced that the total economic isolation of the apartheid system implies a serious instability in the South African economy. In this connection the Special Committee deeply regrets that IMF continues to maintain links with the racist South African régime, and it is of the view that IMF should put an end to all links with that racist régime and should not extend any credits or any kind of assistance to South Africa as long as apartheid continues to exist.

(15) The Special Committee therefore recommends that the General Assembly, at its forty-fifth session, should once again propose, under article III of the Agreement between the United Nations and IMF, 1/ the urgent inclusion in the agenda of the Board of Governors of the Fund of an item dealing with the relationship between the Fund and South Africa. It further recommends that, in pursuance of article II of the Agreement, the General Assembly should propose that the relevant organs of the United Nations should participate in any meeting of the Board of Governors called by the Fund for the purpose of discussing the above-mentioned item.

(16) The Special Committee urges IMF and the World Bank to increase their assistance to the front-line and neighbouring States that have been victims of South African aggression.

(17) The Special Committee reiterates its conviction that consultations with the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system are an appropriate means for further strengthening the role of those organizations in the process of decolonization with regard to the aims and objectives of the Declaration, as well as for the Special Committee to benefit from their experience in that process. The Special Committee is also of the opinion that the agencies and organizations, particularly IMF, in accordance with their charters, should inform it of the results of the consideration by their respective bodies of the appeals addressed to them in the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly aimed at enhancing their role in the decolonization process.

III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

7. The Special Committee adopted the present report at its 480th meeting, on 29 June 1990.

8. The delegation of Czechoslovakia expressed the reservation of its Government with regard to paragraph 6, sub-paragraph (1) of the report.

Notes

1/ See Agreements between the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (United Nations publication, Sales No. E/F.61.x.1), p. 61.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SECOND REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS, INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Chairman: Mr. Alexander SLABÝ (Czechoslovakia)

CONSULTATIONS WITH RELEVANT NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS ON QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

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INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with its programme of work for 1990 (see A/AC.109/L.1719, paras. 3-6) adopted at its 469th meeting, on 23 March 1990, the Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance decided to hold consultations at United Nations Headquarters in 1990 with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) active in the field of decolonization on questions relating to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. To that end, the Sub-Committee decided, at the same meeting, to invite those organizations included in a list prepared at the request of the Special Committee 1/ to hold consultations at Headquarters during May 1990.

2. The Sub-Committee expresses its appreciation to those NGOs that appeared before it for their activities in promoting the ideals of decolonization and for their important and valuable contribution to its work.

I. CONSULTATIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

3. At its 471st, 473rd and 477th meetings, on 4 and 11 April and 3 May 1990, respectively, the Sub-Committee held consultations with representatives of the following NGOs that have offices in the United States of America: Center for International Policy; and Christian Peace Conference and Minority Rights Group.

4. The representative of one NGO stated that Puerto Rico was a textbook example of colonialism in its most perfect and classical form. Its colonial domination and occupation constituted a clear threat to international peace and security. Yet Puerto Rico had not been mentioned in any United Nations publication dealing with decolonization. He suggested that one issue of the publication Decolonization be devoted to that issue.

5. The representative of another NGO said that now was a crucial time in the effort to negotiate an end to apartheid and that Nelson Mandela had called upon the world community to help maintain and even increase the financial pressure on the South African régime. In this respect, he warned of "telltale signs" pointing to the possibility that, despite existing restrictions on loans to South Africa by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), some influential groups were considering the possibility of such a loan. He was particularly concerned about the fact that such loans could be negotiated in utmost secrecy. In his view, the Sub-Committee could play an important role since it was one of the few official forums where IMF management itself appeared and answered questions about its conduct regarding South Africa.

6. The representative of an NGO cited the crucial long-term link between effective decolonization and the establishment of minority rights. In its analysis of minorities, his organization had recognized that there were a number of distinct categories of minorities, some of whose problems had been created and even exacerbated by colonialism. Apartheid, he said, had directly or indirectly given

rise to hundreds of thousands of refugees and literally millions of displaced peoples and it had devastated the economic and social structures of the neighbouring countries.

7. He added that States in both colonial and post-colonial situations should expand information on the number and location of minorities living in their Territories and called upon the Sub-Committee to support the reading of the draft declaration on the rights of peoples belonging to ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities.

II. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8. Having concluded its examination of the item, the Sub-Committee submits the following conclusions and recommendations for adoption by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee expresses the view that NGOs are playing an important role in the decolonization process, particularly through their widespread dissemination of information on the situation in the remaining colonial Territories, i.e., by disseminating information on the position of the United Nations with regard to decolonization, by monitoring the activities of foreign economic interests impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, by disseminating information on the aims, objectives and activities of the national liberation movements and by providing assistance to colonial peoples and their national liberation movements, including those in South Africa, and other national liberation movements internationally recognized, in their struggle for freedom, self-determination, national independence and human rights.

(2) The Special Committee encourages NGOs active in the field of decolonization to continue and intensify their campaign against the evils and dangers of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations by, inter alia, supporting the provisions of, and widely disseminating, particularly to the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the texts of the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980, and all other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to colonial questions.

(3) The Special Committee also encourages NGOs active in the field of decolonization to continue and intensify their support for all colonial peoples, including those in South Africa, and for national liberation movements internationally recognized, in their struggle for freedom, self-determination, national independence and human rights.

(4) The Special Committee requests the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to continue to provide all NGOs active in the field of

decolonization with clear and simple information on colonial issues, in the form of relevant United Nations studies, monographs and other materials about all the Territories under consideration by the Special Committee, in order to enable them and the public at large to follow the situation in the colonial Territories. The provision to NGOs of information on foreign economic and military activities in colonial Territories, including military bases, is of particular importance. The Special Committee requests the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship of the Secretariat to continue preparing material on the subject and to update previous studies. NGOs should be encouraged to assist in disseminating those materials, in particular to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

(5) The Special Committee also requests the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship to continue to co-operate with the Institutional Relations and Non-Governmental Organizations Section and the Public Services Section of the Department of Public Information and to provide frequent briefings on decolonization on all the Territories under consideration by the Special Committee at United Nations Headquarters to interested NGOs and student groups, as well as to university students at campuses away from Headquarters.

(6) The Special Committee and the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship should be represented at relevant seminars and other activities on decolonization matters organized by NGOs substantially connected with the mandate and work of the Special Committee in order to disseminate and explain the position of the United Nations on decolonization issues; to discuss their experience in disseminating information on decolonization and in providing assistance to the colonial peoples and their national liberation movements; and to obtain additional information on the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

(7) The Special Committee, in order to achieve closer co-operation with the NGOs active in the field of decolonization, requests the organizations concerned to supply it with information on their research and the results thereof with regard to important points of view on the problems of colonialism, as well as on the situation in the remaining colonial Territories, and to communicate the results of that research to it, for distribution to all interested NGOs, after consultations in the Special Committee.

(8) The Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship should be requested to utilize, whenever appropriate, information furnished by NGOs concerning the situation in all the Territories on the agenda of the Special Committee when preparing working papers for the Special Committee.

III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

9. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report, by consensus, at its 479th meeting, on 12 June 1990.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Thirty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/39/23), chap. III, para. 19 (10).

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THIRD REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS, INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Chairman: Mr. Alexander SLABY (Czechoslovakia)

CONSULTATIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AND THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

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INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with its programme of work for 1990 (see A/AC.109/L.1719, paras. 3-6), adopted at its 469th meeting, on 23 March 1990, the Sub-Committee on Petitions, Information and Assistance decided to hold consultations with representatives of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the national liberation movements on questions relating to items on its agenda.

2. At its 475th meeting, on 20 April 1990, the Sub-Committee held consultations with the representatives of OAU and the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC).

3. The Sub-Committee expresses its appreciation to the representative of OAU and the representative of the national liberation movement who appeared before it for their continued efforts and commitment to the liberation struggle in southern Africa and for their important and invaluable contribution to its work.

I. CONSULTATIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY AND THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

4. The observer for OAU stated that although Namibia's accession to independence was a cause for great joy, that did not necessarily mean an end to its need for assistance.

5. She said that while it was true that there had been certain changes in South Africa in recent months, for OAU, the so-called reforms had fallen short of fostering the emergence of a democratic, non-racial society in South Africa. The international community should therefore continue and intensify its pressure on the Pretoria régime, through the application of sanctions, including economic sanctions. The Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, she added, adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1989, at its sixteenth special session on apartheid and its destructive consequences in southern Africa, remained the framework for negotiations.

6. The observer for OAU said that the Department of Public Information should double its efforts in disseminating accurate information to the people of South Africa. A joint survey had been conducted by DPI and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) on the need for technical assistance to radio stations willing to broadcast to South Africa. Angola, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe had expressed their readiness to transmit the programmes. In her view, the Sub-Committee should recommend that the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples should request the Secretary-General to expedite his consultations regarding technical and financial assistance to those States in order to enable their radio transmitters to be heard by an increased percentage of the population in South Africa.

7. Finally, the observer for OAU thanked the Sub-Committee for its efforts in disseminating information on the situation in southern Africa.

8. The representative of ANC emphasized the need to expand the dissemination of information in South Africa.

9. The situation in South Africa had not changed, he said. Apartheid still existed and the black population was still not allowed to vote. It was therefore essential to increase the dissemination of information and to let the international community know what was really happening in that country.

10. He added that ANC had no access to radio, television or newspapers and therefore lacked the facilities to disseminate information to the local population. Some people, he said, were impressed by the "cosmetic" changes in South Africa as a result of misinformation. The need for accurate information, therefore, remained essential.

II. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

11. Having concluded its examination of the item, and in the framework of the mandate of the Special Committee, the Sub-Committee submits to the Special Committee for its consideration and approval the following conclusions and recommendations:

(1) The Special Committee commends OAU for its contribution to the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations, and of racism and apartheid, for the support it gives to the colonial peoples and their national liberation movements fighting for freedom, self-determination, independence and human rights and for the attention it devotes to the struggle of independent States in southern Africa against aggression, subversion, destabilization and all forms of colonial or neo-colonial pressures by the Pretoria régime.

(2) The Special Committee should further strengthen its contacts, co-operation, periodic consultations and systematic exchanges of views with OAU and with the representatives of national liberation movements recognized by OAU.

(3) The Special Committee recommends that all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations should be urged once more to increase their support to the peoples of South Africa struggling for freedom and human rights.

(4) The Special Committee recommends that a further appeal should be addressed to all Member States to adopt the measures necessary for the dissemination of objective and accurate information on the struggle of the peoples of South Africa against racism and apartheid and for freedom and human rights. The Special Committee strongly recommends that all Member States should be asked to report to the Secretary-General on measures undertaken in response to that appeal.

(5) The Special Committee recommends that the General Assembly should reiterate the appeal contained in Assembly resolution 2911 (XXVII) of 2 November 1972 regarding voluntary contributions to the OAU Assistance Fund for the Struggle against Colonialism and Apartheid.

(6) The Special Committee recommends that the Department of Public Information, assisted as appropriate by the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship, should continue to prepare and disseminate relevant materials and programmes that reflect the position of the United Nations on the question of decolonization, and on the struggle against apartheid, particularly through the United Nations information centres and those non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization on the Special Committee's mailing list.

(7) The Special Committee recommends that the Secretary-General, through the Department of Public Information and the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship, should be requested to continue to take all necessary steps to assist, as a matter of priority, the Special Committee, and the Special Committee against Apartheid, in order that the United Nations may intensify its efforts to generate publicity and the dissemination of information on decolonization, with a view to mobilizing public support for the self-determination, freedom and independence of all colonial peoples.

(8) The Special Committee requests the Chairman of the Special Committee to discuss with the presiding officer of the Special Committee against Apartheid the holding of periodic consultations in order to co-ordinate the relevant activities of the two bodies. Among the matters to be considered in the course of those consultations should be effective measures to be taken, within the respective mandates of the two bodies, to intensify the dissemination of information on decolonization and to seek ways to increase contributions to the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa and the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa.

(9) The Special Committee requests the Secretary-General to expedite his consultations regarding technical and financial assistance to those States in southern Africa broadcasting or willing to broadcast anti-apartheid programmes in order to enable their radio transmitters to be heard by an increased percentage of the population in South Africa.

III. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

12. The Sub-Committee adopted the present report by consensus at its 480th meeting, on 29 June 1990.